

Hello Representative Leeper,

I am a resident of Fairfield, a woman of color, and a Democrat and I am against Bills 5429, 5254, and 5361. Please represent my voice and those of my neighbors and vote against these bills. These are pro developer and anti resident measures. The beach parking lots are already packed on weekends, and state beaches are available and free for residents. What is the legislation doing about the utilities prices going up 10-30% as a means for affordable housing?

I bought a home in Fairfield, for tranquility, open space, and small town feel. If I wanted to live in an urban area, there are no shortages of options in this state. I don't want my hometown to turn into Norwalk and Stamford. Paid lobbyists and other non residents who do not live in Fairfield County were the proponents of this bill, not Fairfield County residents during the hearing [last week](#).

Connecticut is an expensive place to call home. I understand running a town and a state is similar to running a business. Running our towns to be desirable places to attract people to live in our town is important. However these bills will decrease the quality of life here.

More units, more people, more traffic congestion, and more cost. The selectman just approved an increase to the education [budget](#) of 5% that tips \$200 Million. The mill rate is increasing again next year. How will our infrastructure and schools absorb 1000s of more units and more people? It's outrageous to have a minimum of 15 units per acre in Fairfield. This is anti resident and pro developer. How can increasing density especially in well documented flood zones be pro environment?

According to the bill each town has to set aside 65% buildable acres with a .5 radius miles of the train stations. at a rate of 15 minimum units per acre, that is 4,875 units, 487 affordable. That is increasing the population by 15% ( currently ~60,000 residents in Fairfield).

Why aren't the monstrous rental buildings next to Fairfield Metro enough? I live down the street from this [development](#) and also read this new 43 unit apartment complex is proposed on a small half acre parcel on castle ave. This bill 5429 appears that it will fast track and amplify these efforts. Pro developer, anti resident.

#### Solutions - Employers

A critical factor for families not being able to afford housing is that they do not have a career that affords them to live in the area they desire. The focus should be on bringing in employers that pay well and enable residents to afford to live here in peace. We lost GE and sold that property to a university. Why not expand partnerships with universities here to have career tracking programs to help with education costs and pathway to solid employment? People move where jobs are located. Why not influence firms in high paying sectors to continue to establish themselves here?

#### Utilities Prices

Aquarion went up 10% in 2021

UI increased its supplier rate by 30% in 2022

1% of salary goes to the state for FMLA starting in 2021

These are also factors that contribute to the cost of living. At a legislative level, what is being done to combat these hikes for families?

### Rebuilding existing cities

What are the efforts at a legislative level to place these transit oriented notions to reviving the manufacturing cities of Connecticut that already have the housing stock, infrastructure, and the population that wants a urban space to their previous grandeur? Waterbury, New London, Hartford, Bridgeport? Those are accepted urban areas that are better suited to these ideas than historic suburban areas. They were vibrant cities once, they can be again. The city of Stamford is going through quite a transformation.

Each year we have more severe weather bringing [flooding](#) disasters to our town. Fairfield county as a whole is [flood zone](#). Within the .5 mile of the Fairfield Station, there was news that train underpass had [flooded](#) this past fall. Where we should be creating more green space and places to absorb water and not create high density, low porous structures to help with water. After sandy a state commissioned [study](#) was completed illustrating future flood risk around Fairfield metro and Jennings beach areas. the weather is going to get worse not better, and we must be conservation stewards.

Thank you for your consideration  
Bianca